GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1642
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2006
REGIONAL DISPARITIES IN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT .
Reddy Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the eastern and north eastern regions have lagged behind in agricultural development;

(b) If so, the details and the reasons therefor; and

(c) The measures being taken by the Government to tackle regional disparities in agricultural productivity? ANSWER

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): Data in the following table show the normal (average of 5 years from 1999-2000 to 2003-04) productivity and production of foodgrains and oilseeds in major States of eastern and north eastern regions vis-Ã -vis the others:

As may be seen from the above table, in the case of foodgrains, the productivities of eastern and north-eastern region states are not lagging behind than that of the northern and western regions states. However, in the case of oilseeds the trend is mixed. The productivity and production depend, inter-alia, on rainfall, temperature, nature of soil, use of fertilizers, quality seeds, appropriate technology and managerial skills of farmers, which vary from region to region.

(c): The development of appropriate production and protection technology for the farmers for enhancing their productivity, production and income has been the major thrust of the Government. For this, high priority is accorded in all the crop improvement programmes to develop indigenous technology looking into the need and specific problems faced by the farmers in different agro-climatic areas of the country. Besides, low cost technology developed for optimum period of planting, seed rate, appropriate plant population, weed control, integrated pest management and inter culturing have been standardized and made available to farmers for adoption.